

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets 2 and 7 of the drawings include informal changes to Figures 2 and 10. These informal changes are submitted for the Examiner's review and approval. To correct an ambiguity in the specification, the element originally identified as a "thrust disc" 44 is now characterized as an end plate 45. The "thrust disc" 44 is a separate element that is contiguous with the adjacent face of the end plate 45

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

In view of the prior art and arguments advanced in the parent application prosecution, Applicant respectfully submits the foregoing claims as clearly patentable over the prior art.

Date: February 20, 2004

Respectfully Submitted,

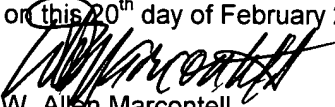


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W. Allen Marcontell